

**181—3.4(17A,546) Agency consideration.** Upon request by petitioner in the petition, the agency must schedule a brief and informal meeting between the petitioner and the agency, a member of the agency, or a member of the staff of the agency, to discuss the petition. The agency may request the petitioner to submit additional information or argument concerning the petition. The agency may solicit comments from any person on the questions presented in the petition. Also, comments on those questions may be submitted to the agency by any person.

Within 30 days after the filing of the petition, or within any longer period agreed to by the petitioner, the agency must, in writing, issue a ruling on the petition or refuse to do so. An agency is deemed to have issued a ruling or to have refused to do so on the date the ruling or refusal is mailed or delivered to petitioner.